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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/735,635	PAIMPARAY ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kyung H. Shin	2143	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 December 2003*.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 December 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *12/16/03*.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responding to application papers filed on **12-16-2003**.

2.   Claims **1 - 13** are pending. Claims **1, 8, 10** are independent.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim **1 - 9** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Ghani**

et al. (US PGPUB No. **20020085029**) in view of **Massand et al.** (US PGPUB No.

20040085354).

Regarding Claim 1, Ghani discloses a protocol for the automatic and simultaneous

distribution of electronic documents of different formats on the Internet between different

users of terminals that are connected by means of different access networks in the

course of a common session consisting of common access to a server dedicated to the

said session, wherein the protocol consists in:

a) initializing the said session on the initiative of one of the terminal users who is the

organizer of the said session, the step consisting in initialization comprising at

least, following a connection of the terminal of the said organizer user to the said

dedicated server, the drawing-up of a list of surnames, first names, and electronic addresses of other users who are invited to the said session and the selection of the electronic documents to be distributed in the course of the said session, (see Ghani paragraph [0005], lines 1-3; paragraph [0035], lines 3-6: Internet network communications (different access networks); paragraph [0008], lines 1-3; paragraph [0035], lines 13-18: dedicated server(s), multiple sessions; paragraph [0039], lines 1-5: presenter (organizer); paragraph [0059], lines 1-3: list of participants for sessions; paragraph [0040], lines 1-4: list of documents for session)

b) transmitting, from the said organizer user terminal, to the said dedicated server, the set of electronic documents to be distributed in their different original formats, accompanied by the list of the other invited users and, at the level of the said dedicated server, (see Ghani paragraph [0035], lines 6-8; paragraph [0040], lines 1-10: transfer list and contents of document(s), information to server)

c) converting each of the electronic documents to be distributed into a plurality of successive current pages in a unique HTML format and putting the said successive pages on line on the Internet site of the said dedicated server, (see Ghani paragraph [0008], lines 3-5; paragraph [0048], lines 1-12; paragraph [0035], lines 6-8: conversion (formats) of documents, stored at server)

e) conditionally authorizing access of each of the said user terminals to the plurality of successive current pages on line. (see Ghani paragraph [0056], lines 2-11:

authorization setup by presenter (organizer), session participant(s) (user

terminals) authorized to view pages)

Ghani discloses wherein transmitting, by means of the said dedicated

server, and, following the connection of at least one of the said organizer and/or

invited user terminals to the said dedicated server during the said session. (see

Ghani paragraph [0008], lines 1-3: transfer message(s) between session

participants)   Ghani does not specifically disclose a message of invitation to

participate in a collaborative session.

However, Massand discloses:

d) transmitting, at least to each of the said invited user terminals, a message of

invitation to participate in the said session, the said invitation message

comprising at least the address of the site of the said dedicated server and the

date and the time of the said session, (see Massand paragraph [0013], lines 1-3:

collaboration system; paragraph [0034], lines 9-18; paragraph [0047], lines 5-11;

paragraph [0067], lines 1-7: transmit invitation to participants, PC with network

(IP address) connection, setup and completed for participants)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ghani as

taught by Massand to enable the capability to transmit a message of invitation to

participate in a collaborative session.   One of ordinary skill in the art would have

been motivated to employ the teachings of Massand in order to enable the capability

to for automated collaboration and development of feedback from a set of organizer

selected and invited participants.   (see Massand paragraph [0010], lines 1-9: " ...

Therefore, a need exists for a computer-based document collaboration system in the

form of stand-alone software that will allow a plurality of reviewers to simultaneously

review a single document on a plurality of computers and submit comments on the

document wherein the comments of each reviewer are stored and indexed

separately from the document and from those of other reviewers and forwarded to

an editor or author without modifying the underlying document. ... ")

Regarding Claim 2, Ghani discloses a protocol according to claim 1, wherein the said

step consisting in initialization further comprises the communication to the said

dedicated server of general information concerning the session. (see Ghani paragraph

[0042], lines 4-11: communicate session (general) information to server)

Regarding Claim 3, Ghani discloses a protocol according to claim 1, wherein the said

step consisting in initialization further comprises the attribution by the organizer user of

specific rights of action to each of the said invited user terminals, the said specific rights

of action comprising at least the right of consultation only or the right of consultation and

addition of electronic documents distributed in the course of the said session. (see

Ghani paragraph [0061], lines 1-4: consultation (access rights between presenter and a

participant); paragraph [0047], lines 10-11; paragraph [0056], lines 2-11: authorization

setup by presenter (organizer))

Regarding Claim 4, Ghani discloses a protocol according to claim 1, wherein the step

consisting in authorizing access to the said at least one of the invited user terminals

comprises a conditional step of authentication of the said at least one of the invited user

terminals with respect to the said dedicated server. (see Ghani paragraph [0101], lines

3-6; paragraph [0096], lines 7-9: authentication of user by server)

Regarding Claim 5, Ghani discloses a protocol according to claim 1, wherein access of

the said invited user terminals to the plurality of successive current pages on line is

synchronized access, each authorized invited user whose access has been accepted

automatically and simultaneously displaying the same HTML page of the said plurality

of successive current pages in the unique HTML format on line. (see Ghani paragraph

[0047], lines 2-6; paragraph [0051], lines 3-8; paragraph [0052], lines 3-6: synchronized

access to pages by participants)

Regarding Claim 6, Ghani discloses a protocol according to claim 5, wherein the said

automatic and simultaneous display of the same HTML page of the said plurality of

successive current pages in the unique HTML format on line is controlled on the

initiative of each of the organizer and/or invited user terminals, each participant in the

said session being enabled to control and/or change the HTML page posted on each

user terminal participating in the said session. (see Ghani paragraph [0054], lines 1-9;

paragraph [0056], lines 2-11: control over session (access right to edit page(s)) by a

participant)

Regarding Claim 7, Ghani discloses a protocol according to claim 1, wherein the

access of each of the organizer and invited user terminals to the said dedicated server

is executed by each of the said terminals by means of a periodic interrogation of the

said dedicated server. (see Ghani paragraph [0197], lines 3-4; paragraph [0198], lines

1-5: periodic access, interrogation)

Regarding Claim 8, Ghani discloses a system for the automatic and simultaneous

distribution of electronic documents of different formats on the Internet between different

users of terminals that are connected by means of different access networks in the

course of a common session consisting of common access to a dedicated server,

wherein it comprises at least one dedicated server constituting a service platform, the

said service platform comprising at least:

 a) a session organizer module which, upon a call on the initiative of one of the

  terminal users which is the organizer of the said session, enables the said

  session to be initialized, the step consisting in initialization comprising at least,

  following a connection of the terminal of the said organizer user to the said

  dedicated server, the drawing-up of a list of the surnames, first names, and

  electronic addresses of the other users who are invited to the said session and

  the selection of the electronic documents to be distributed in the course of the

  said session, (see Ghani paragraph [0039], lines 1-2: session initialization;

paragraph [0008], lines 1-3: dedicated server; paragraph [0036], lines 1-7;

paragraph [0154], lines 1-7: software)

b) a module for receiving the said electronic documents to be distributed and

converting them into a plurality of successive current pages in the unique HTML

format, (see Ghani paragraph [0040], lines 1-4; paragraph [0008], lines 3-5:

conversion into HTML format)

c) a module for putting the said plurality of successive current pages in the unique

HTML format on line at the level of the site of the said dedicated server, (see

Ghani paragraph [0051], lines 3-8; paragraph [0052], lines 3-6: display

successive pages)

e) a module for controlling access to the site of the said dedicated server by each of

the user terminals, the said access control module comprising a module for

authenticating every organizer user terminal with respect to the service platform

and every organizer and invited user terminal with respect to the said session

organized by the said organizer user terminal, respectively. (see Ghani

paragraph [0101], lines 3-6; paragraph [0072], lines 3-6: authentication users)

Ghani discloses wherein a module for transmitting messages to each of the

said organizer and invited user terminals and from the said dedicated server.

(see Ghani paragraph [0005], lines 1-3; paragraph [0035], lines 3-6: Internet

communications, network connected systems)   Ghani does not specifically

disclose transmitting messages of invitation to participate in the said session to

each of the said organizer and invited user terminals.

However, Massand discloses

d) transmitting messages of invitation to participate in the said session to each of

the said organizer and invited user terminals, each invitation message

comprising at least the address of the site of the said dedicated server and the

date and the time of the said session, (see Massand paragraph [0013], lines 1-3:

collaboration system; paragraph [0034], lines 9-18; paragraph [0047], lines 5-11;

paragraph [0067], lines 1-7: transmit invitation to participants, PC with network

(IP address) connection, setup and completed for participants)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ghani as

taught by Massand to enable the capability to transmit a message of invitation to

participate in a collaborative session.   One of ordinary skill in the art would have

been motivated to employ the teachings of Massand in order to enable the capability

to for automated collaboration and development of feedback from a set of organizer

selected and invited participants.   (see Massand paragraph [0010], lines 1-9)

Regarding Claim 9, Ghani discloses a system according to claim 8, wherein each

message in the said session to each of the said organizer and invited user terminals

comprises a password dedicated to the said session and to each of the organizer and

invited user terminals. (see Ghani paragraph [0101], lines 3-6; paragraph [0072], lines

3-6: login (password) authentication)   Ghani does not specifically each message of

invitation to participate in the said session to each of the said organizer and invited user

terminals comprises, in addition to the address of the site of the said dedicated server.

However, Massand discloses wherein each message of invitation to participate in the

said session to each of the said organizer and invited user terminals comprises, in

addition to the address of the site of the said dedicated server. (see Massand

paragraph [0013], lines 1-3: collaboration system; paragraph [0034], lines 9-18;

paragraph [0047], lines 5-11; paragraph [0067], lines 1-7: transmit invitation to

participants, PC with network (IP address) connection, setup and completed for

participants)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ghani as

taught by Massand to enable the capability to transmit a message of invitation to

participate in a collaborative session. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been

motivated to employ the teachings of Massand in order to enable the capability to for

automated collaboration and development of feedback from a set of organizer selected

and invited participants. (see Massand paragraph [0010], lines 1-9)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form

the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another
filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an
application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent,
except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects
for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international

application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claim **10 - 13** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Ghani et al.** (US PGPUB No. **20020085029**).

Regarding Claim 10, Ghani discloses a method for the simultaneous posting of a current HTML page from a set of HTML pages on line on a dedicated server on each of the terminals of different users that are organized into a set of users participating in the same session, wherein the method consists in:

   a) transmitting, on the initiative of one of the user terminals, that is the requesting user terminal, to the said dedicated server, a request for the posting of the said current HTML page, (see Ghani paragraph [0008], lines 1-3: dedicated server; paragraph [0054], lines 1-9: specific participant (user terminal) controls session; paragraph [0051], lines 3-8; paragraph [0052], lines 3-6: display page to all participants; paragraph [0066], lines 1-4: post specific HTML web page)

   b) transmitting the said current HTML page from the said dedicated server to the said requesting user terminal, posting the said current HTML page at the level of the said requesting user terminal, (see Ghani paragraph [0054], lines 1-9: specific participant (user terminal) controls session; paragraph [0051], lines 3-8; paragraph [0052], lines 3-6: display page to all participants; paragraph [0066], lines 1-4: post specific HTML web page)

   c) transmitting from the said requesting user terminal to the said dedicated server, a message for the simultaneous propagation of the posting of the said current

HTML page with respect to the other user terminals participating in the said

session, (see Ghani paragraph [0054], lines 1-9: specific participant (user

terminal) controls session; paragraph [0051], lines 3-8; paragraph [0052], lines 3-

6: display page to all participants; paragraph [0066], lines 1-4: post specific

HTML web page)

d) transmitting, from each of the said terminals participating in the said session to

the said dedicated server a periodic scanning message comprising a request for

confirmation of continued posting of the said current HTML page on each of the

said terminals participating in the said session, (see Ghani paragraph [0197],

lines 3-4; paragraph [0198], lines 1-5: periodic scanning, determine continued

operation)

e) transmitting, from the said dedicated server to each of the terminals of the said

users participating in the said session a response message for the continued

posting of the said page of an HTML page, this response message of continued

posting comprising a reference of the HTML page to be posted, which is identical

to or different from the reference of the said current HTML page and, upon

receipt of a response message of continued posting comprising a reference of

the HTML page to be posted which is identical to or different from the reference

of the said current HTML page, (see Ghani paragraph [0054], lines 1-9: specific

participant (user terminal) controls session; paragraph [0051], lines 3-8;

paragraph [0052], lines 3-6: continuous posting of HTML web pages by

presenter)

f) maintaining the posting of the said current HTML page on each of the user

terminals participating in the said session and, on receipt of a response message

for continued posting comprising a reference of the HTML page to be posted

different from the reference of the said current HTML page and relating to

another HTML page, (see Ghani paragraph [0054], lines 1-9: specific participant

(user terminal) controls session; paragraph [0051], lines 3-8; paragraph [0052],

lines 3-6: continuous posting of HTML web pages by presenter)

g) transmitting from each of the user terminals participating in the session to the

said dedicated server, a message requesting access to the said other HTML

page, (see Ghani paragraph [0056], lines 2-11: participant request for control

(access) to web page)

h) transmitting from the said dedicated server to each of the said user terminals

participating in the session, the said other HTML page, (see Ghani paragraph

[0051], lines 3-8; paragraph [0052], lines 3-6: display (post) HTML web pages on

presenter and participants system)

i) posting, on each of the user terminals, the said other HTML page, which is

subsequently taken as the current HTML page. (see Ghani paragraph [0051],

lines 3-8; paragraph [0052], lines 3-6: display (post) HTML web pages on

presenter and participants system).

Regarding Claim 11, Ghani discloses a method according to claim 10, wherein, a

reference number comprising a unique serial number is attributed to each HTML page

of the said set of HTML pages on line, the reference number corresponding

unambiguously to the address of the said HTML page on the site of the said dedicated

server, enabling access by each of the said user terminals to be controlled according to

rights of consultation only and of consultation and addition of electronic documents

distributed by one of the user terminals, a reference comprising a successive serial

number being allocated to each HTML page resulting from the addition of additional

electronic documents. (see Ghani paragraph [0225], lines 1-11: session information

tracked for each message (HTML page) processed)

Regarding Claim 12, Ghani discloses a method according to claim 10, wherein the said

periodic scanning messages are emitted by each user terminal participating in the said

session within a range of periods of between 3 seconds and 2 minutes. (see Ghani

paragraph [0197], lines 3-4; paragraph [0198], lines 1-5: periodic access check range of

100 seconds (between 3 seconds and 2 minutes))

Regarding Claim 13, Ghani discloses a method according to claim 11, wherein the said

periodic scanning messages are emitted by each user terminal participating in the said

session within a range of periods of between 3 seconds and 2 minutes. (see Ghani

paragraph [0197], lines 3-4; paragraph [0198], lines 1-5: periodic access check range of

100 seconds (between 3 seconds and 2 minutes))

Conclusion

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyung H. Shin whose telephone number is (571) 272-3920. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 am - 6 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Kyung H Shin
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2143

KHS
May 20, 2007